another. All groups have equal rights to co-exist and flourish and the education system needs to respond to the cultural pluralism inherent in our society.

(c) Studying of material on essence of all religions is expected to inculcate religious tolerance and respect to other religions in the minds of the students. Considering the prevailing diversity and the federal character of our nation, there is a need for serious engagement of all States/Union Territories (UTs) towards translation of ideas of NCF-2005 in reality through review of existing syllabi and textbooks. NCERT has already prepared syllabi for classes I to XII based on NCF-2005 and initiated a programme of financial support to States/UTs to undertake systematic review of syllabi and textbooks and to draw up a map for school reform along the lines of recommendations of NCF-2005.

(d) NCF-2005 has already addressed these issues.

Untrained teachers in primary education

4157. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that, on the basis of recent survey conducted by NCERT in collaboration of State Governments and National Informatics Centres, around 20 per cent of teachers in Primary Schools of the country are untrained;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the specific reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of measures proposed to be taken by Government to ensure proper training to Primary School teachers in each Government school of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) As per the seventh All India School Education Survey conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), with reference date 30.9.2002, 21.41% of full-time teachers predominantly

teaching at primary stage were untrained. The survey does not specify reasons for untrained teachers in the primary schools.

(c) As most of the primary schools in the country are within the purview of the State Governments, ensuring proper training of primary school teachers is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) lays down guidelines in respect of minimum qualification for employment as teachers in schools and also regulates norms and standards in the teacher education system throughout the country. NCERT also designs in-service training programmes based on the request of State Governments.

Introduction of a new programme for health by CBSE

4158. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision of the Central Board of Secondary Education to introduce Adolescence and Reproductive Sexual Health Programme which will address issues related to nutrition, health, hygiene, physical fitness and mental health besides drug abuse, reproductive and sexual health and HIV-AIDS has not been favoured by many States;

(b) if so, the reasons for the opposition and the States that have opposed it; and

(c) whether his Ministry, in view of this, have dropped the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD.ALI ASHRAF FATMI): *(a)* and (b) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is implementing an educational programme launched by Ministry of Human Resource Development in collaboration with National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) known as Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) meant for secondary and higher secondary classes with the objective to empower the adolescent population to make informed choices and develop life skills for addressing psychological, social and health concerns.